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The Life, Privileges and Prejudices of the Farmer.

BY THOMAS BARLOW.

Of all pursuits which man can follow, that of the farmer conduces most to his happiness. The life of the farmer is the one most conformable to the requirements of our nature and as a natural consequence must be one of the greatest enjoyment and peace. It is true that from the earliest day agricultural labor has been looked upon by certain pretendedly higher classes of men of various nations as one of subservient drudgery; but this is far from being the honest view drawn from a sense of the utility of things. Whilst this prejudice has obtained to a greater or less extent among most all nations, the wiser and better classes have understood and properly appreciated agricultural pursuits. Emperors and kings have been sensible of their dependence upon the tillers of the soil for their welfare and strength, and have periodically, in some countries, condescended to take off their gloves and take the plow by the handle and direct it through the soil, as a kind of special regard and encouragement for this industry. All these things, that is, all industrial pursuits, depend upon the popular opinion to a great extent, for the character they bear in the minds of men, that is, whether reputable or disreputable. All honest business professions are honorable if they enure to the benefit of man; but some will have more prominence in the views and estimation of man dependant upon the good which is to result from them. In this country the great body of the people are of the class of farmers, and the people hold the sovereign power in their own hands and bear the crown upon their own heads; so that instead of the king of our country merely condescending once a year to guide the plow across the field, our sovereigns follow it as a profession for years and for life.

The farmers constitute the greater number of those who are to form the popular opinion; and unless they underrate and despise their own calling it must be popular.

I would not undervalue any business pursuit, for all are proper and useful to a greater or less extent; but it must of necessity and truth be admitted that the cultivation of the soil is of the most importance as well as most productive of happiness.

The farmers are the dependance of all other

classes. They are the providers, strength and defenders of all and of our country. Let them rest from their labors for but one single year, or let there be a failure from their seed sowing, and the world, the business world, including the financial and commercial affairs, is at once paralyzed, thrown into confusion and ruin, from which there can be no possible relief without a return of business and prosperity to the tillers of the soil. The merchant, the mechanic, the clergyman, the lawyer, and every other class of men, may suspend their labors without any such truly serious consequences, although I will admit that all pursuits of men are intimately interwoven, and the suspension of any one of the wheels will jar to a greater or less extent the whole machinery. But experience has established it as a truism that the prosperity of the farmer is the prosperity of the world.

The life of the farmer is the most independent that man can live. With his own hands he can produce whatever he may need to eat, drink or wear; and whilst asleep and at rest, his crops and stock are growing in accumulation of his supplies and wealth. Neither night nor sickness stop their growth, nor the increase of wealth springing up from the farm.

Not so with any other class of citizens. When the mechanic lays down his hammer, or goes to rest at night, his capital ceases its increase until he returns to his toil again. Thus with the pen and tongue of the lawyer, and gown of the clergyman. The merchant stands behind his counter dependant upon the voluntary favor of customers, and when a customer leaves the shop, the stock in trade suspends its increase. Thus with all others.

The life of the farmer is the one the creator of man intended him to enjoy. It affords that healthful exercise of the body essential to health and strength, and the best possible occupation of the mind for its moral developments and elevation. The cultivation of the fields will teach no moral pollutions nor carry man into those vain speculations which the political and trafficking world originate and carry him into, to take captive his honest judgment and pervert his moral sense. Turning the furrow, sowing the seed, reaping the yellow harvest, watching the flock and gathering the crop into the garner, have no tendency to arouse the ambition for power over a fellow being, nor a monopoly of the fruits of earth to the starvation of his neighbor. Morally impressed from a sense of the bounties

of nature, he feels to share with the needy and hungry. From other and speculative pursuits, spring sordid selfishness as from a more legitimate source. I do not pretend that moral honesty fills the bosoms of all farmers, far from it; but I speak of the legitimate tendency of business pursuits and their influence upon the moral and physical man. And by an examination of the various classes of men into which the world is divided, the greater proportion of benevolent and moral will be found among the farmers, and this from the legitimate tendency of the occupation of body and mind. And herein we see the wisdom of providence in causing it to be so. If the farmers constitute our dependence and strength, it is the wiser and safer that with them should rest the better standard of morality, if indeed there is to be degrees of variance springing from the various pursuits.

The prejudices of ages gone by have been entailed upon us, and have heretofore tended to keep down the reputation of the agriculturist. Even farmers have sought to honor sons—darling and favorite sons of their families with “learned professions,” and have supposed that thereby they, the parents, brothers and sisters would be elevated above the common walks of life, by thus connecting themselves with the profession of the clergyman, doctor, or lawyer. This false pride and mistaken view of things has ruined many sons, and pauperized many parents in laboring to carry a student through to a profession. Many and many a constitution, which with the exercise of the farm would have been sound and healthy through a long life, have sunk to ruin and decay in a few brief years by habits of inactivity and study; or stubborn idleness and pride which the folly of the parents was well calculated to induce.

“How shall I honor my son?” inquires the father and farmer. The question is easily answered—educate him to the most honorable and useful pursuit—*agriculture*. “He is of a slender constitution,” says the father. Then I say more emphatically he needs the fields to range in, that he may have exercise in the pure and free air, and enjoy the stimulant of seeing the crops and verdure spring forth from earth as a reward for his care and industry; and it may certainly be relied upon that he can never endure the sedentary, inactive life of a slave and fixture of a “chamber and library.” He may by the career of a student grace his exterior by the brush, comb and perfumery of the closet, and arouse his mind to a different activity, and acquire a taste for the fashions and a pride for fashionable things, and feel that life is passing and promising one of honor and elevation. But soon his folly will develop its fruits. His constitution, by its deprivation or want of exercise will indicate its surrender. Then he will say to himself—“O that I had the health of the laboring man—with that I could enjoy life in the

humblest sphere. But I have bartered it away for the foolishness of fashion, and vain ambition for a professional life.”

He sees too late the error of his father and himself; the rude exterior of his rustic life passed through the change of “toilet improvements,” and now shows the yellow changes of approaching dissolution. With what joy would he grasp the plow if he could but reassume the sturdy life of the farmer, reinvigorate his health and enjoy life in the pursuits of honest, useful industry. He learns too late that the laws of God, which were established to govern his physical being, were not to be trifled with or neglected. He finds that whilst the fashions and follies of the world may change and puff the pride of the thoughtless, the laws of his nature do not change, whilst he might and did violate them and sold his life for the mere bubbles and tinsels of a more fashionable and less useful life.

This is the picture and sad tale of thousands; and originates entirely from a false pride and false view of things. Did parents only see the truth, that honor and greatness are inseparable from industry and usefulness, they would not fall into this fatal error. Although it is true that the life of the farmer is, generally speaking, one of “hard labor,” it is so only because it is *made* so unnecessarily! A man can make himself a slave at any thing, and can destroy himself by over application in any employment. The life of the farmer may be one of drudgery, toil and heavy labor constantly, or it may be one of steady, healthy and easy exercise. Hard as the life of the farmer is considered by some to be, it is scarcely possible to break down the constitution by following it, as soon as by intellectual and sedentary pursuits.

Our lunatic asylums prove the sad reality of ruined minds and constitutions by only a few brief months of literary application. Minds which would have been sane, buoyant and happy through lives of agricultural labor under the heaviest toil, have sunk to ruin and permanent imbecility in less than one brief year. He who traversed the fields in the beauty and healthful air of the early morning in gay and buoyant spirit, has been turned into a maniac in a few short months to end his days in melancholy or fury of a broken mind. Nature will not be overtaxed with impunity. If we bear too hard upon the laws that govern our intellectual being they will recoil upon us with deadly vengeance and overthrow the empire of mind and sink us in insanity and ruin, drawing after it physical destruction also.

That many minds and bodies survive many years of literary and sedentary pursuits, I will admit, with health and prosperity; but many more fall victims to the ambition for such lives. Were we to consult our own happiness, health and usefulness, we should seek lives of bodily exercise and industry productive of the greatest

good to others as well as ourselves; and among all the avocations and pursuits of man best adapted to this end is that of the agriculturist.

Thus have I spoken of the life of the farmer with regard to its character, tendency and importance, as well as to its influence upon the moral character, constitution, health and happiness of man — *American Journal of Agriculture and Science*.

Canastota, Aug. 16, 1847.

Solvent Action of Rain Water on Soils.—In the autumn of 1844, it occurred to John Wilson, Esq., of East Lothian, where the system of thorough drainage is very extensively carried out, that the drainage-water during its percolation of the soil, must necessarily dissolve out and carry away a great portion of soluble constituents of it, which by the practice as at present followed, are carried off the land and consequently lost to the farmer. He accordingly, between that time and the following spring took advantage of the fall of rain, subjected several samples of drainage-water he had collected, to chemical analysis, the results of which were quite sufficient to show that his conjectures were well founded. During the autumn there fell about the usual quantity of rain. On the 16th of May 1845, he collected some drainage-water, from a field which had lain plowed in winter fallow, having been prepared a few days before for seed and sown with guano and barley. From this sample of water, 18 lbs., on evaporation, gave 27½ grains of solid residue, or about 8.44 grains to the pound, which were composed of the following ingredients:

<i>Grain.</i>	
Organic matter, &c.	7.8
Silica.	0.7
Silicate of alumina.	0.2
Peroxide of iron.	2.25
Phosphate of magnesia.	1.08
Magnesia.	1.69
Chloride of sodium.	2.615
Chloride of calcium.	2.107
Carbonate of lime.	3.07
Phosphate of lime.	3.01
Phosphate of alumina.	0.45
Loss.	2.088
	27.5

From the above experiment it would appear to be expedient for the farmer to avoid using very large quantities of soluble manures, at a time, on porous, leachy soils; and instead of giving his land sufficient manure to last two or three years, to divide the quantity, and apply it in as small a proportion and as frequently as the nature of his crops will permit.—*Phila. Magazine*.

Things to forget.—Do not allow your thro'ts to dwell upon the injuries you have received, or the provoking words that have been spoken to

you. If you would be happy, learn the art of neglecting injuries, and allow them to grow out of your mind.

Elements of Vegetable Food.

We are taught by those who have long studied the subject, that all substances susceptible of digestion and assimilation may come under the denomination of food; but the proximate principles of organic bodies, on which their nutritive powers depend, are comparatively few. Hence, although the articles employed in different countries for the support of animal life are various, their sustaining powers may be referred to certain substances capable of being separated and identified by chemical analysis and tests. Amongst the proximate elements of vegetable food, gluten, and its congeners, starch, gum, sugar, and lignin or woody fibre, are by far the most important; and amongst those of animal food, albumen, gelatin, casein, together with fats and oils, which are common to the kingdoms of nature.

The following table, by Professor Brand, shows the ultimate composition of 1000 parts of the following proximate principles of animal and vegetable food:

	Carbon.	Hydrogen.	Oxygen.	Nitrogen.
Albumen,	516	75	258	150
Gelatin,	483	80	275	161
Fat,	780	122	98	
Curd of Milk,	609	75	116	203
Sugar of Milk,	454	61	485	
Gluten,	557	78	220	145
Starch,	448	62	500	
Gum,	419	68	513	
Sugar,	444	62	494	
Lignin,	500	56	444	

By the same author we are informed that there is another important point in the history of our food, namely, its ultimate composition. We have spoken of starch, sugar, gum, albumen, and other substances, as the proximate principles upon which we live. But what is the ultimate constitution of these secondary products? What are their true elements? It is curious that four elements only are principally concerned in the production of our food; these are carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen. Among vegetable substances, gluten, including vegetable albumen, is the only one which abounds in nitrogen—gum, sugar, starch, and the rest are constituted of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen only; and what is very remarkable is, that in all these important principles, and also in lignin the oxygen and hydrogen bear to each other the same relative proportions as in water, so that they may be figuratively described as compounds of charcoal and water. Now there are two very curious points in reference to that part of the chemical history of our food which has been adverted to: the one is, that no animal can subsist for any length of time upon food which is destitute of nitrogen; and the other, that a certain mixture of different kinds of food is absolutely essential.

Keep a Diary.

Every intelligent and careful farmer should keep a record of every important operation on his farm. This is necessary if he would thoroughly understand his business, and avoid errors and losses in its prosecution. We have, undoubtedly, too much *random farming*, where we should have it regular and systematic, and this for want of that knowledge which might easily have been obtained, if the previous management and its results in each particular case, had only been carefully noted. Such knowledge is oftentimes very valuable to the practical farmer—he cannot well afford to do without it.

How many mistakes have been made and repeated from year to year, which would have been avoided from the first, if those interested had only preserved a history of the whole transaction, so that it might be seen in its true light; but as they are unable to bring all the items of expenditure together into the account, they have never seen that the return is wholly inadequate, and so they have continued the practice. The farmer should have the means at hand of ascertaining the profit or loss on every crop that he cultivates and every animal that he keeps. He will thus be led to devote the greater part of his time and attention to those which are uniformly most profitable.

Farmers generally are too negligent in this matter. In no business, perhaps, does eminent success depend more upon the judicious application of the lessons to be derived from careful observations of the past, than in farming; while the farmers as a class are prone to let many of these most important matters pass unheeded and unnoted. How many of our common farmers are able to tell the actual cost of each of the various crops they have cultivated for the past five or ten years? and the average yield of each per acre? And yet the knowledge of these and kindred matters relating to those very crops must be valuable to a sensible and reflecting farmer, and would, doubtless, have a favorable and important influence upon his future agricultural operations.

Perhaps the necessary farm record may be most conveniently kept in the form of a diary. In this every important operation upon the farm should be noted—the state of the weather; amount and kind of labor performed each day; the method pursued in the cultivation and manuring of every field; amount of seed sown, quantity of hay, grain, &c., harvested from each field; income of the farm; expenditures; increase of stock, &c., &c. It should furnish a history of business transactions on the farm sufficiently minute for all practical purposes, in the order of time in which they occur.

In this manner at the end of the year, you have a record of all the expenditures and all the labor performed on your farm for the year. You have also an account of the income, and

the yield of every crop you have cultivated. You may then arrange these several items in a more convenient form for future reference, so that you may see at a glance the actual cost of each crop; the amount of labor expended in preparing the land, sowing or planting, cultivating, harvesting, and securing it; also the yield and market value of the same at the time it was disposed of. In this way you may go through with every thing to which you have given any portion of your time and attention. You may thus see for yourself what has been most profitable, and what has been unprofitable; and also what has served to bring about these results.

The great importance of keeping an accurate farm record is apparent. It would require only a few moments time each day to do it; and the cost of a suitable book is but trifling, while the benefits to be derived from such a record are various and almost incalculable.—*Me. Far.*

Importance of Good Seed.

No one who has attentively examined a growing crop, can have failed to notice the difference in the vigor of different plants on the same square foot of surface. Some will start with a full broad leaf of a dark green color; others with a narrow one of a pale green or yellow and sickly hue. During the early period in the growth of these plants, the difference will increase, and a large full head will crown the one while a short shrivelled one will be all that can be yielded by the other. For this difference there may be many causes. I think it better to confine the examination to the early period in the growth of the plant. After it is a few inches high, causes obvious, yet entirely beyond our control, will continue and increase the difference. The powers of life in one, being in greater activity, and more fully developed, its vessels are sent out on longer excursions, and nourishment gathered from a greater distance, even from the very threshold of its neighbor's dwelling. Like the stronger animals, it not only takes the first and the last piece, but the best of all pieces. Not satisfied with the robbery below the surface of the ground, it extends its broad leaves to the sun, and makes the first use of the light and heat, transmitting to its weak neighbor what remains; and from the dews and rains its own water casks must first be filled, however thirsty its feeble companion may be. Of the early causes, imperfect tillage, undoubtedly has much effect. One kernel may be half covered upon a bunch of grass sods; another buried under the same turf below the full influence of light and heat, while a third is placed at a suitable depth in mellow earth. This is often more strikingly exhibited in buckwheat, a crop for which mellow ground in ordinary cases is indispensable. If the ground is plowed in large furrows and sown without previous harrowing, as

many are in the habit of doing, no inconsiderable part of the seed will fall so low, and be buried by the harrow so amply, that a late and sickly dwarf, at the feet of its more fortunate neighbor will be all that can be expected.

But the cause to which I must more particularly call attention at this time, is a difference in the seed sown. In my neighborhood, great pains are taken by farmers and gardeners to secure good seed. I speak not now of *clean seed*; not of sowing a mixture of rye, chess, cockle, charlock, red root, tares, dock, southern plantain, and canada thistles, and calling it wheat, but of seed, the individual grains of which shall be full and sound, ripe and fat. An excellent farmer taught me, while yet in early boyhood, that *seed-corn* should be selected in the field, and only the long, full ripe ears be saved; and other things being equal, they should be selected where two ears grow upon one stalk. This I suppose is in accordance with the practice of all careful farmers. If this selection is made before the husk is changed by frost, the earliest ears are easily distinguished. They should be braided by the husk in bunches of convenient size, and hung up where the possibility of heating or moulding is out of the question. By this course I am satisfied that not only vegetation, and a fuller and more thrifty blade is insured, but the best kinds may be made better, and foreign varieties be acclimated, and perhaps some of them made valuable.

Let those who raise seed for sale answer for themselves, but sure I am, that no sensible man would think of saving for *his own use*, the seeds of a small insipid melon, or of a thin fleshed, watery, coarse grained pumpkin or squash, although he might be confident they were fully ripe, and would in all probability vegetate.

The short, yet massive "cabbage turnip," which produces a large, compact head, is selected to furnish seed for another season. Such beets, and carrots, and turnips, as you would wish your future crop to be, are to be put out for seed, and the product of the largest branches and fullest umbels only should be saved. For early use, the short cucumber, growing near the root, should be saved for seed. In the later variety for pickling, if one gives early indications of unusual straightness, length, and thrift, a stake is put by it, and it becomes forbidden fruit.

A gentleman of my acquaintance, a merchant in the country, once mentioned to me a circumstance in point. Having just received a box of seeds from a family, celebrated the world over for their garden seeds, he asked the individual who brought them to furnish him, as a personal favor, some cucumber seeds for his own garden. He was reminded that the box just opened contained an abundance of the article. The merchant replied, "friend I want a few of those seeds you have saved for your own garden." A few days after a little package of seeds was re-

ceived, which the merchant assured me was of more worth, five times, the nominal value of ordinary seeds; each seed produced a vigorous, broad-leaved plant, leaving nothing to be desired either in the rapidity of its growth, or in the quantity or quality of its production.

In crops cultivated during their growth, all feeble stalks should usually be removed, at least when the numbers of vigorous ones will admit of that disposition. When pumpkins are cultivated with corn, from one-third to two-thirds of the vines may be pulled up at the last hoeing or soon after, and consigned to the hog pen with decided advantage. They will show by that time that a green pumpkin, too small for a foot ball, is all that is to be expected from them. But although the subject is so important in regard to the seeds which have been mentioned, I know not why it is not equally so in reference to the kinds of grain, &c., which in this country are almost universally sown broad cast, and yet so far as I know, but little has been written or said on that part of the subject. I have even heard farmers object to sowing wheat with a large, full berry, because it would take more in measure, for the same quantity of ground, than of a sample of the small-berried, shriveled kind. They said that shrunk wheat would "come up," and if the berry was shriveled to half the full size, half the expense of seed would be saved. If there are but few who would attempt to speculate by exchanging full, well fed seed, for a poor, half starved specimen, then am I fearful multitudes would not take the trouble of exchanging the poor for that which was better, paying a little difference. But in the best specimens there will be many small, imperfect grains. The cause mentioned in the early part of this article will account for some of them. In oats, every individual stock will produce grain, differing widely in their size and weight. Some of the branchlets of the panicle will put out later and produce inferior kernels. The same is emphatically true with buckwheat. The small kernels of any of the grains, with those broken by any cause, would be of value as food for animals, but if sown, in connection with the full kernels, they would do little more than shade the ground, and take some nourishment which would otherwise go to perfect more fully the fruit of the other stalks. But here some one may ask, how is the separation of the large from the small, the fat from the lean kernels, to be effected? Very readily by a good set of sieves or screens. In addition to those belonging to your fanning mill, let others be prepared of the same size and form, from wire cloth of the different textures you desire. The cost will not be great. They will be extra sizes for your mill, and will be worth twice their cost for this purpose. Then make of firm, light boards, the sides and ends of a box, which will just admit one of these sieves. Attach to the inside of your box some little sup-

port near the lower edge for the screen to rest upon, and you will have at command as many screens as you have sieves, both proper and extra to your fanning mill. One of them, of suitable fineness, will take from your oats all small or broken grains, and all cockle, dock, and thistles, &c., which you can consign to your cauldron, and after being boiled thoroughly, they will hurt neither your hogs or your land, and a richer harvest of better grain will richly reward you for all your care and expense.

S. REED.

Dwight Place, Richmond, 1848.

—Jour. of Ag. and Science.

Blue Joint grass.—This species of grass is well known to the first settlers on our frontiers, for it oftentimes forms a source of nourishment to their stock during the summer, and makes very good hay if cut in season. It is a tall grass springing up and growing luxuriantly in the natural low land meadows. Its history,—its habits and its peculiar characteristics are not well known, and yet it is deserving more attention than it has hitherto received. It is considered to be a perennial grass; but, from certain circumstances, we are inclined to the belief that it is either an annual or biennial. Our reasons for this belief are these. After the meadows, where it abounds, have been fed down or mowed a little while, it disappears. Why is this, if it were not by reason of preventing its seed from ripening, by which it would be replenished and continued?

In certain situations it grows luxuriantly, and produces a great burthen of excellent hay. We should be very glad to receive information of a practical and reliable character in regard to it. Can any one furnish us with such? If its true nature could be understood, so as to enable those who have low lands where it once flourished abundantly in its wild state, to again establish it in as great luxuriance as formerly, the knowledge would be worth much to many. We have all of us been too remiss in the study of our native grasses. There are many that might be made very valuable to us, did we but know more of their peculiar habits, and thereby learn to cultivate them as they require to be.—*Maine Farmer.*

Disbudding.—In the case of several of our cultivated fruit trees, experience has abundantly proved that the removal of shoots at an early stage of their growth (which from the adoption of a system of training, or a tendency in the tree to excessive luxuriance, are deemed superfluous) is both advantageous to the health of the tree and favorable to the production of handsome fruit. Pruning may effect the result desired, but it is a violent remedy, although necessary in some degree. Disbudding, properly speaking is the art of preventing the developement of useless buds at the expense of those which should

be preserved, as it must be more advantageous to check an unnecessary shoot at an early stage than to wait until it has exhausted the tree of a greater or less quantity of sap; as it is probable that a proportion of roots is directly connected with vigorous shoots, it follows that derangement in the distribution of the sap ensues from their removal at the period of their full developement. It is, then, generally advisable not to wait until a badly placed shoot is developed, but to suppress it early. With apples and pears peculiar judgment and discrimination are necessary; stopping should systematically be practiced. The excess of shoots produced by peach trees invites the practice we recommend. The same attention should be directed to vines. In our flower gardens much unnecessary growth may be prevented. Roses, for example, if judiciously disbudded, not only bloom better, but form finer and more vigorous plants. In fine, we advise a daily inspection of the sorts of trees we have alluded to.—*London Gard Chron.*

Ohio Mineral Indestructible Paint.—The discovery of this extraordinary substance and its valuable properties have been the subject of several notices in the columns of our journal, of the black or slate color by Mr. Blake, and more recently the lighter colors and shades by Mr. Utley, which are said to possess all the valuable qualities of the former, being completely water proof, indurating in a few months, and forming a perfect enamel or slate, imperishable, and capable of resisting fire.—These most valuable and desirable properties, as we have before observed, appear to be equally inherent in both, while the latter, being of a light color, varying from a light fawn to a dark stone and slate, can be changed and modified to exhibit an almost endless variety of shades. This paint has now been in use at the West, and in a few instances, in our city, during the past six months, and we believe always sustaining its deserved reputation; at least, so far as we have heard from those who have used it.—Having received repeated communications on the subject, and many solicitations from those who desire to apply it, we are now prepared to say to our readers that Mr. W. H. Starr, 67 Beekman street, in this city, has accepted the appointment of general agent for the sale of Utley's OHIO MINERAL INDESTRUCTIBLE PAINT, who will receive orders, and supply all demands, both wholesale and retail, for the article. This paint, if it realizes the proprietor's expectations, (and the test of repeated experiments cannot but carry conviction to the minds of the most incredulous, that it is all that is represented,) must soon supercede the use of lead paint, particularly when any color but white is admissible, and when security from sparks, cinders and falling flakes of fire is desirable; and more especially as it is afforded, by the barrel, at the low price of \$4 per hundred pounds.—*Farmer and Mechanic.*

Pomological Convention.

This convention met on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 10th and 11th inst., in this city.

The committee on fruits submitted a report of the fruits selected by them from among the various specimens exhibited, as worthy the particular attention of the horticulturist and agriculturist. The different articles specified were separately examined, and most of them adopted by the convention, according to the following list:

PEACHES.—Varieties recommended for general cultivation. Goose Mignonne, Early York, (serrated,) Old Mixon, (free,) Coolidge favorite, Crawford's late, Bergin's yellow. For particular localities—Heath cling.

PLUMS.—Varieties recommended for general cultivation—Jefferson, Washington, Green Gage, Purple favorite, Coe's golden drop, Bleeker's gage, Frost gage, Purple gage. For particular localities—Prince's Imperial.

CHERRIES.—Varieties recommended for general cultivation—Black Eagle, Mayduke, Biggarreau, Black Tartarian, Knight's Early Black, Downe's Late Red, Elton, Downton.

APPLES.—Varieties recommended for general cultivation—Early Harvest, Large Yellow Bough, American Summer Pearmain, Gravenstein, Summer Rose, Early Strawberry, Fall Pippin, Rhode Island Greening, Baldwin, Roxbury Russet. For particular localities—Yellow Bellflower, Swaar, Esopus Spitzenburgh, Newtown Pippin.

PEARS.—Varieties recommended for general cultivation—Madeline, Dearborn Seedling, Bloodgood, Tyson, Bartlett, Seckel, Louese Boune de Jersey, (or Quince) Flemish Beauty, Beurre Rose, Winter Nelis, Beurre D'Arenberg, Golden Beurre of Bilbao. For certain localities—White Doyenne, Gray Doyenne.—*Farmer and Mechanic.*

Good way to raise Grape Vines.—We take the following from the Boston Cultivator:

Unfasten from the wall or trellis, a branch containing several joints, or eyes of young wood, and prune out carefully every alternate eye or bud. Then get ready small boxes, say 6 or 7 inches square, without bottoms, but with notches cut in two sides, sufficiently large and deep to receive the branch when laid across them. Lay them in a row, and bring the branch over them, so that each joint deprived of its eye shall be in the box; fasten them by means of forked sticks, and fill them with rich compost, so as to cover the joints with a considerable thickness of mould and supply them with moisture. The joints having eyes will then be found in the spaces between the boxes, from whence will spring shoots, to the height of several feet, and in all probability yielding fruit. At the fall of the year, separate the branch between each box, and you will have a fine vine in each, well rooted and ready for transplantation to any desirable place

intended for it. We lately examined a branch treated in this way, that produced seven fine plants the present season, several of them measuring six or eight feet in height, with a fine bunch of grapes well ripened, on two of them.

[Ed.]

Lime for Fruit Trees.—In reply to the inquiry of E. Jorden, Corners, Vt., Lime is good for all kinds of fruit. The apple may require rather more than others, but of this we are not certain. When lime is cheap it may be well to use a peck to a tree, but when it is a dollar a bushel, we should advise the use of only 2 or 3 quarts to a tree, and a free use of wood ashes, if they can be obtained conveniently. The lime may be mixed thoroughly with all the soil put into the hole in which the tree is set, or it may be applied to the surface, after setting the tree, and worked into the soil a few inches. Mineral manures tend downward, and should be, generally, applied to the surface.—*Boston Cultivator.*

From the Boston Cultivator.

Butter.

MR. EDITOR:—Much is said about the best method of preserving butter; and sugar, nitre, &c. are recommended; but experience has taught me, that if milk be skimmed before it sours in hot weather, and is not allowed to stand more than forty-eight hours in cool, the butter will be pure when made unless the cream stand too long after skimming. Also, that if all the butter-milk be extracted, the butter will keep almost or quite a year, without rancidity, when packed in balls a proper size for the table, with only sufficient salt to make it palatable. It is a well known fact that hog's lard, when neatly strained, will keep two years without a particle of salt; and why should not butter, if all the moisture be extracted? Never should cream stand upon the milk more than two days; nor, in hot weather, more than four, between the first skimming and churning; then press every particle of butter-milk from the butter and it will long be pure, if neatly made, without the trouble of preservatives.

A HOUSEKEEPER.

Converting Wheat to a Perennial.—The attempt has been made to convert wheat from an annual to a perennial plant, and it is said, with some good degree of success. The account given is, that it was discovered by the steward or director named Kern, of an estate at Constance. After he had plowed and manured the land, he then sowed it with summer or winter wheat. In the spring, before the ear makes its appearance, he mows it. This he does repeatedly several times in the course of the season, using it as a kind of hay. After this he allows the plant to grow, and be harvested as usual. The next year it ripens earlier and bears a much larger crop than wheat cultivated in the usual manner.—*Patent Office Report.*

MICHIGAN FARMER.

WARREN ISHAM, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY—TERMS \$1
IN ADVANCE—FIVE COPIES FOR \$4.

Let it not be Forgotten, that we offer in our prospectus, \$25 00 a hundred for new subscribers, for our next volume, and that in addition to that, we have offered a premium of ten dollars in cash to the man who shall send us the largest list of names by the 15th of December, only one month from this date.

Let it not be Forgotten, that the Michigan Farmer, as proposed to be enlarged, will contain, in its two monthly numbers, more matter than the (monthly) Albany Cultivator, and a little more than twice as much as the (monthly) Genesee Farmer.

Let it not be Forgotten, that the club terms of the Michigan Farmer, in its enlarged form, put it at six shillings a year *twice a month* for any number over ten, which would make only three shillings a year for it *monthly*.

The Michigan Farmer will make its appearance at the commencement of the next volume in a new dress, new type having been procured for it.

Great Rejoicing.

Our proposition to enlarge, appears to be received with great rejoicing by the people. But let it not be forgotten, that the carrying out of that proposition, depends upon a contingency,—that it was put forth coupled and embarrassed with a condition. There is a mortgage upon that proposition which must be lifted, before you can have the benefit of it,—remember that, whatever *else* may be forgotten. We are glad to learn, that there is a waking up among our friends upon the subject, in different quarters, but we fear, that they will not be prompt enough, that they will put off, and put off, and put off, the important business of procuring names, until it is too late. Already have Eastern publishers pushed in their prospectuses, and no doubt there are vast numbers, that know little or nothing of their own state agricultural paper, who will make desperate efforts, as they have done in years past, to send off long lists of names. A year or two since, a certain agricultural paper

in Eastern New York, made its boast, that it had received fifty subscribers from each of the two places, Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, while at the same time, not more than half a dozen or a dozen copies of the Michigan Farmer went to either of those offices; and it has not been heretofore uncommon to see notices in Eastern agricultural journals of twenty or thirty names having been received from places in Michigan, where the Michigan Farmer was scarcely known. Now this is a state of things which we will never submit to. We say plainly and boldly, that if we cannot cure this sickly appetite for something Eastern, simply because it is Eastern, we will most assuredly leave the state, in compliance with invitations which we have repeatedly had to go East, and then we will be able to send the people of Michigan an agricultural paper from that quarter, and O how much better it would be! It would be so much more talented, and so much better adapted to the circumstances of a new country, that we have serious doubts whether it is our duty to stay here any how.

But, jesting apart, we think we see a change going on in regard to this matter, and if we mistake not, our subscription list for the next volume, will give substantial evidence of it.

No Privileged Class.

We wish it to be distinctly understood, that the columns of the Michigan Farmer, are open to the contributions of all classes alike, no one being excluded, because he has not been to college, nor because his acres do not make so large a figure as those of some other men. There is a vast amount of information locked up in the minds of the thousands of farmers in the State of Michigan, and who has the key? *Who?* Why every man. Then let every man take his own key and unlock. Some few have done so, but what are they among so many?

We hope the suggestion and example of our correspondent * will not be lost upon the intelligent farmers in other portions of the state. Similar information ought to be gathered up in every township, and thus from each township in the state, would arise an orb of light, and there would be a perfect galaxy of stars and suns, to light up the pathway of the farmer, and lead him to new and useful applications of the resources at his command.

And now, that the busy season has gone by,

and the long winter evenings have set in, there can be no reasonable excuse for further delay. And we trust that the many intelligent and gifted minds, with which our farming community is so richly furnished, will be employed, during this favored season, in gathering up statistics in their respective neighborhoods, similar to those published in our last, that whatever there may be that is useful and of good report, in particular localities, may be bequeathed to the world as a common good, which all alike are privileged to enjoy, and thus may every township and every neighborhood, avail themselves of the advantages which are peculiar to every other.

And so of individuals. Who so humble in his vocation, and who so stupid, we may add, as never to stumble upon a discovery, in his whole life, a knowledge of which would be useful to others in the same vocation? Let all then *who have heads*, "put them together, tell each other what they know, and try to learn," and, our word for it, they *will* learn.

The Mistakes of Some Men.

Sad indeed are the mistakes of some men, and in nothing more than in the means they frequently adopt on their way to their ends. Here is a man, for instance, who toils like a slave at the bidding of his master, day in and day out, and if you ask him for what, O it is to lay up something for his family! It is for this, that he exposes himself to all weathers, endures all hardships, encounters all obstacles, braves all dangers, and glories in privation. Intimate to him that he is moved by other impulses, that it is the secret influence of the almighty dollar, the god which he worships, that nerves his arm, and you could not offend his sensibilities more.

And yet, this is the same man, who will not spend a leisure moment, to plant a shade tree, or a shrub, to adorn, and beautify, and make pleasant his family abode—the same man who, perhaps, deprives his children of the advantages of education essential to their becoming good and useful citizens, qualified to act well their part on the theatre of life, because he wants their aid in carrying out his great, ruling purpose. But how miserably is this man deceived! Instances there are, undoubtedly, when through misfortune, a parent's heart is pained, that he cannot give his children the advantages of education he desires. But we are speaking of those who are abundantly able to educate their chil-

dren in a proper manner, but who, through parsimony, or a mistaken regard to their interests, neglect it.

And O how sad the consequence of that neglect! You look abroad upon a neglected field, and see it overrun with brambles and noxious weeds, so that nothing good and desirable can grow and that is a sad spectacle? But how much more sad is the spectacle presented by an immortal mind which has been suffered to run to waste!

And what is it, in point of fact, that makes the man? What is it that makes the difference between one man and another? Why is it, that in every neighborhood, there are certain individuals who are looked up to as superior to all around them? Is it not to be ascribed to the mental and moral training to which they were subjected in their early years, and to which they ever afterwards subjected themselves?

And why is it, that in our halls of legislation, are to be found so great a proportion of lawyers and physicians, and so very small a proportion of farmers, as compared with their respective numbers in the community? And if, by any means, so extraordinary a spectacle is presented as that of a fair proportion of farmers in a legislative body, why is it, that, ten to one, the entire law-making power is in the hands of the very few professional men who are found there only in a like fair proportion? Why, if not on account of the intellectual superiority of the latter? And whence this intellectual superiority, if not from the advantages of education, and in not a few instances, *self education*?

Yes, *self education*, and that is the best sort of education, a sort which none have a better opportunity to acquire than the farmer, while engaged in the cultivation of his own independent acres. And there are not wanting specimens of the most illustrious character, to show what can be done under such circumstances. Here and there we meet with a cultivator of the soil, who is also a cultivator of the mind, and who spares no pains, neglects no opportunity, to improve it, and replenish it with useful information. And if he be a man of good parts, he rises and shines as a star of the first magnitude, notwithstanding what may be regarded as the disadvantages of his vocation. Many who have thus risen, have found their way into the gubernatorial chair, and into the Senate chamber, and

they have found themselves as much at home in those high stations, and have filled them with as distinguished honor, as though they had belonged to the privileged class.

It is a great mistake to suppose, that in order to have a fertile, productive soil, the cultivator must doom his rational *mind* to barrenness. There is no employment more favorable to the development of a sound and vigorous intellect, than that of agriculture. And the true reason why the farming community exhibits a lower scale of intelligence, than the professional classes, is not so much because a high degree of intelligence is inconsistent with their vocation, as because they do not avail themselves of the opportunity for *self education*, which they so abundantly enjoy, and that because they have no heart for it; and they have no heart for it because they have not been so trained to it from their early years, as to acquire a taste for knowledge, and the habit of concentrating their attention upon any given subject. Talk as you will about the impossibility of being a good farmer and a good scholar, it is all delusion, or a mere excuse for mental sloth. What can be a more revolting spectacle than to see the human body, the mere material part of man, developing its beautiful proportions, and its muscular energies, under the salutary influences of manual labor, while the rational, immortal mind which inhabits it, is suffered to sink into imbecility? It is a sort of monstrosity in nature, exhibiting, at best but a deformed specimen of humanity. A like deformity, though not so revolting, may be seen in those whose powers of intellect, are developed at the expense of those of the body, and never can the intellect itself attain to its highest estate under such circumstances. And hence the advantage which the working classes possess over all others, for the development of strong and vigorous minds, their physical energies being adequate to sustain them in their intensest mental exercises, and at the same time, imparting vigor to them, the mind and the body acting, and re-acting, upon each other.

Let the working classes arouse themselves then from their mental lethargy, and avail themselves of the advantages, they enjoy for intellectual culture, and especially let them school themselves to an acquaintance with the mysteries of their own vocation, and they will soon see themselves occupying the position and wield-

ing the influence to which their superior numbers, and their paramount interests entitle them, gathering into their own hands the political power which properly belongs to them, but which is now deposited with the privileged few, and thus will they correct one of their fundamental mistakes.

But the full benefit of such a movement, cannot be realized, until another generation comes upon the stage. Let every working man then, who desires to see his children coming forward prepared to occupy the position and wield the influence in society, which properly belongs to them, see to it, that, to this end, they are properly educated, schooled to intellectual as well as physical labor. Then will there be ushered in a new era in the history of agriculture. Then will the cultivators of the soil no longer look, with an invidious eye, upon those engaged in other pursuits.

The Influence of Stocks on Grafted Fruit.

A correspondent of the Horticulturist gives the result of an experiment which seems to show, that the time of ripening of grafted fruit, depends not a little upon the stock. Some plum scions from the same limb of the same tree, were grafted upon stocks of different varieties, and when they came to fruit, it was found, that the fruit from the one, was about ten days earlier than that from the other. Upon investigation, it was found, that the scions, which produced the earliest fruit, were grafted in the stock of an early variety, while the stock of the other was of a later variety.

Mr. Downing seems to endorse the idea, and adds, that the stock also undoubtedly has very considerable influence upon the keeping properties of fruit.

The Boston Cultivator.—S. W. Cole, Esq. has relinquished the editorial charge of the Boston Cultivator. Under his auspices, the Cultivator has always taken rank among our best agricultural Journals, and it is with regret, that we part with so valuable a coadjutor in the great work of agricultural reform. And in parting with him, we take occasion to commend to the notice of our readers a small veterinary work of which he is the author, and which has had an almost unprecedented sale as a standard work on the subject.

Horticultural.

For the Michigan Farmer.

The regular monthly meeting of the Detroit Horticultural Society was held at the hall of the Detroit Institute on Tuesday evening October 10th.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read and approved. The President stated that he had appointed Messrs. F. Raymond and T. H. Hinchman delegates to attend the fair of the American Institute and the Pomological convention in New York, and that he had forwarded two barrels of fruit to the fair. The fruit was collected and put up by Judge Barker of Plymouth.

Messrs. James Allen of Pontiac, O. M. Bronson of Waterford, George Frost and George Brewster of Detroit, and Rev. Isaac W. Ruggles of Pontiac were elected members.

The President having read a letter from the secretary of the New York state Agricultural Society, and one from the secretary of the Buffalo Horticultural Society, said he had received from the New York state Agricultural Society, three volumes of the transactions of that Society, as a premium for fruits exhibited by our society at their fair in September last. He also stated that he had received several premiums for individual members of our society for articles exhibited by them. He had also received from the Buffalo Horticultural Society a barrel of Plaster to be distributed among the members of the Society.

Rev. Geo. Duffield moved, that the thanks of the society be extended to the New York state Agricultural Society for the premiums awarded this society, also to the Buffalo Horticultural Society for the barrel of Plaster received from them.

J. C. Holmes presented specimens of the Red Calville and the Detroit of Downing, or black apple, as it is called in this vicinity, with the following remarks. Previous to the Pomological convention held in Buffalo September 1st. I went into the orchard of Frances Baby Esq. of Windsor, C. W. to select some fruit to present to that convention. In passing through the orchard I noticed a very handsome apple, at that time a bright red, but not ripe; the name at that time I did not know. Mr. Baby not knowing what it was, and Mr. Dougall, who is well acquainted with the orchard, never having noticed this tree or its fruit, I concluded to wait until it was ripe, and then take another look at it.

Within a few days I have received from Mr. Dougall, specimens of this fruit, with the following remarks, which show conclusively that neither

the Red Calville, or the Detroit originated in this vicinity.

Mr. Baby informs me that he got the original tree, which is yet standing, and from which I took the specimens I send you, from Montreal in 1696, along with other kinds: he thinks it had no particular name, but says it is one of the Calvilles.

Captain Cowan who commanded a small vessel on the Lakes, and who had formerly been a gardener to General Washington, previous to his being President, brought up the trees in his vessel from Fort Erie for Mr. Baby, and as he was an excellent grafter, he took scions from each variety, got by Mr. Baby, for the purpose of engrafting them in Detroit. I find some of them are very good, while others are very inferior on the same tree. Some of the fruit is stained with red to the core, and some is white throughout. The specimens with stained flesh, are always best; this remark holds good as regards the Red Calville, and the Rosseau, which apples belong to the same class.

From this information, I think this must be the source from which we received our Calvilles, Black apples, and all of that class. As scions from these trees were engrafted in 1796, into many trees which were at that time very old it accounts for the opinion of those who think this cannot be the origin of these trees in this vicinity, for they say that thirty years since they knew trees of these varieties, which at that time appeared to be fifty years old.

Mr. H. also presented a fine specimen of the Beurre Diel from the garden of Mr. Chas Bull. J. C. H.

Premium for Shade Trees.—The Chicago Horticultural Society have offered a premium of \$20 in a gold plate to the person "who shall plant and bring forward in the public streets, the best twenty shade trees." This is an example which might be followed by the Horticultural Societies of other cities, with the most beneficial results.

The Grain Crops throughout Great Britain and Ireland prove to be under an average; but on the continent they are large, and the supplies from that quarter will be abundant. Potatoes are extensively affected by the disease and large quantities have rotted.

Agricultural Schools in France.—At a recent session of the National Assembly of France, the principal part of the day was devoted to the bill relative to agricultural schools. It was resolved that one of these institutions should be founded and maintained in each department at the public expense, and further, that the country should be divided into agricultural districts, not exceeding twenty, in each of which a government school is to be established.

For the Michigan Farmer.
Sheep Dogs.

Hogg, the Ettrick shepherd, gives an interesting account of the management of a flock of sheep. On one night, a large flock of lambs, suddenly frightened, scampered away in three different directions across the hills, in spite of all that he could do to keep them together. "Sirrah," said the shepherd to his dog "they're awa." It was too dark for the dog and his master to see each other at any considerable distance, but Sirrah understood him and set off after the fugitives. The night passed on, and Hogg and his assistant traversed every neighboring hill, in anxious but fruitless search of the lambs; but he could hear nothing of them nor of the dog, and he was returning to his home with the doleful intelligence, that he had lost all his lambs. "On our way home, however," says he, "we discovered a lot of lambs at the bottom of a deep ravine called the Flesh Cleugh, and the indefatigable Sirrah, standing in front of them looking round for some relief, but still true to his charge. We concluded it was one of the divisions the dog had been unable to manage, until he came to that commanding situation. But what was our astonishment when we discovered that not one lamb of the flock was missing! How he had got all the divisions collected in the dark is beyond my comprehension. The charge was left entirely to himself from midnight until the rising sun, and if all the shepherds in the forest had been there to have assisted him, they could not have effected it with greater promptitude. All that I can say is, I never felt so grateful to any creature under the sun, as I did to my honest Sirrah that morning."

The price given for a shepherd's dog has not uncommonly been as much of forty guineas (\$200); and to the writer's knowledge, even that sum has been refused by shepherds in the north of England.

THE COMPLETE GRAZIER.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Stotch Farmers in 1812.

There is certainly no country in Europe where the advantages of education are more generally diffused than in Scotland, and this is the case with the upper rank of farmers fully as much as in regard to any other profession. Besides attending to the grammar schools in their immediate neighborhoods, and sometimes these in the more northern counties of England, their

education is in many instances perfected at the universities in Scotland, where they acquire a taste for reading, which makes them masters not only of agricultural information, but enables them afterwards to make a very respectable figure, whenever literary or scientific subjects become the topics of conversation. Their mode of living varies. In the more northern districts, such as the Carse of Fowrie, they are distinguished for economy; whereas in the more southern counties, their mode of living unites at once the comforts and even the elegancies of life, suited to their station. They have also frequent and friendly intercourse with each other, both in their own families, and upon occasions when their professional concerns call them from home, either for the purpose of marketing their grain, or purchasing and selling live stock.— Their skill in husbandry is of a superior description, partly owing to the examples set before them by their predecessors, who were well acquainted with some of the most important branches of agriculture, though certainly deficient in others; and partly owing to their personally examining the husbandry of their districts; but, above all it may be attributed to their turn for reading, either books or periodical publications on husbandry, from which they derive the earliest information of every new improvement.

Their attention to business is characteristic. One farmer informs me that it is a rule with him to see his horses thoroughly cleaned every evening at 8 o'clock. Another observes how essential it is that the farmer should be commander in chief upon all occasions; in particular, he ought to be first up in the morning, to set all the wheels of the machine going, by his example and directions. Impressed with the necessity of observing that maxim, my correspondent informs me, that neither he, nor any individual in his house, for nineteen years, has ever breakfasted by daylight in winter. The breakfast is all over by candle light, by which means an hour is saved which many farmers lose by indulgence, yet six hours a week is nearly equal to the working part of a winter day. This is a greater object than can at first perhaps be imagined, where there are perhaps twenty servants at daily work. In the improved districts of Scotland, the farmers (*though only tenants*) are every where seen, carrying on extensive and costly improvements by draining, enclosing, liming,

and marling, or by careful and judicious improvement of their live stock, with all the eagerness and intelligence of commercial speculation. They trust to the spirit of future years to reimburse their large expenditures with reasonable advantage. Such is the anxiety entertained by the Scotch farmers in regard to improvement, that many of them make annual excursions into the best cultivated districts of the united kingdom, where they have an opportunity of observing the practice of those districts, and comparing it with their own; and such is their candor and good sense upon these occasions, that though they may see much to censure, they neither withhold their approbation where it is due, nor are backward in adopting the improvements of others when they are likely to answer.

Sir J. Sinclair's account of Scotland.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Grasses.

In England, *forty-two* different sorts of grasses are used for meadows or pastures; *four* kinds of clover; besides yarrow, ribgrass, burnet, &c.—In a single old meadow it is not uncommon to meet with fifteen or twenty species growing side by side, each with its own peculiar excellency. Hence arises, to as great an extent as from the moist climate, the richness of English grass and hay; and the high condition, and great size of the cattle and horses. All herbivorous animals prosper best on a *mixed* food; and especially when they can pick it for themselves as they please. Nearly all, if not all the really valuable grasses of England, would prosper in this climate, if proper care were taken with them for a few years: while we confine ourselves almost entirely to timothy, red top, and red clover. By due cultivation of early grasses we believe that we could have good pasture at least three weeks earlier in the spring than we at present possess, and this at a time when stock, tired of dry food, peculiarly need a change. The Italian rye grass, lately introduced into Europe, for earliness, vigor, and heaviness, promises to excel all others in good land. It is advertised for sale in New York.

The English writers on farming, lay it down as a rule, that a farm of 500 acres, paying a rent of about £450 (about \$2,300) a year, on the average, exclusive of taxes, requires an expenditure of at least £1,500 (\$7,000) in implements, working stock, and cattle, to begin with, without paying for seed; and all this on the part of the tenant. Besides this, there must be mo-

ney in hand to support the family, pay wages, and bear incidental expenses till the first crop comes in. There are many farms which pay from \$5,000 to \$10,000 a year rent, in proportion to their size, and from that up to \$30,000. The present rent of England, may vary from £1 to £2 (\$5 to \$10) an acre, according to situation and improvement. In Scotland, from £2 10s to £5 an acre exclusive of taxes: which in some parts will amount to \$2 an acre besides.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Receipt for putting up Hams like the celebrated Westphalia.—Get the hams cut in the shape of Westphalias as nearly as you can, viz: long and narrow, and approaching to a point at the end, and put them under a board, heavily pressed down to flatten them. About four days after killed, rub them all over with common rough salt, particularly about the hip bone and knuckle joint. Having brushed off the salt, (which should remain on for a day and a night) and dried the ham with a coarse cloth, rub thoroughly and equally into each, one ounce of saltpetre powdered finely, and let it lie so for twenty-four hours; then take saltpetre 1oz., common salt 1lb, coarse salt 1 lb, sugar 1 lb, make them hot in a pan, but be careful not to melt them; and rub them well in while hot, all over the fleshy and rind sides, and finish with half a pound more of common salt. Let them lie until a brine appears; and then, turn them every day, and rub and baste them well with the brine for the space of three weeks; take them out of pickle, immerse them in cold water for twenty-four hours; let them drip; wipe well with a cloth, and hang to smoke. If to be kept through summer, the soaking in water may be omitted in this climate. They are excellent, and in a few weeks eat like old hams.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Another Grub Lifter.

PAW PAW, Oct. 23, 1848.

I send you a "grub lifter," or rather give a description of one, which I think will shell the corn off of friend Cobb's log affair, with a perfect rush.

It is simply this—take a common cart, rigged for swinging logs under, hitch a chain to the roller on the cart, drive over a grub, make fast to it with the chain, then raise it out as you would raise a log. The same could be fixed on a common waggon; after taking off the box, place two stout poles on the axletrees, fix the roller near the hind wheels, and operate the same as with a cart.

Yours,

E. BARNUM.

NEW INVENTIONS.

Articles at the Fair.

Among the numerous articles presented for exhibition at the American Institute Fair, the department to which the public are equally indebted with any other, is, that to which the new building erected by the society on the Western extremity of Castle Garden is appropriated.

DICK'S ANTI FRICTION PRESS.—Amongst the articles for exhibition in the same room, not driven by steam, and without the railing, none exhibits more perfectly the immense force that can be brought to bear by the ingenious combination of mechanical powers than Dick's Anti-Friction Press. This can be used for pressing hay, cotton, cheese, &c., is made portable, and can be managed by few operatives.—Some idea may be learned of its efficiency from the fact which we ourselves witnessed, that, by simply taking hold of the end of the lever used for working it, and with very little effort, it was made to crush with ease a piece of board that was placed within it. This is a highly scientific and practically powerful machine, and we think, destined to come into general use.

SCAGLIOLA.—Mr. Farely of Canal street, exhibited a number of specimens, such as Columns, Table-tops, &c., of this beautiful substitute for marble.—They are certainly the best we have ever seen. They imitate every kind of fancy marble while the surface is smooth and brilliant as glass. For ornamental work, in the interior of dwellings, Scagliola is equal to marble, at least in this respect, it can be made of every variety of color, to carry out the decorative design of any apartment.

MORSE'S AIR-DISTRIBUTOR.—This is a very valuable invention, patented by Morse & Brothers, of Athol, Mass., Mr. L. A. Spalding of Lockport, has the patent right for our own state. The invention consists in distributing the air through the fine fuel by means of perforated cones, and is so contrived that it burns saw-dust, tan, turners' chips or other fine fuel for running steam-engines. A number of steam saw-mills in Western New York have already adopted the "Distributor," and are thus consuming all their refuse, in lieu of either wood or slabs. It merits an examination.—*Boston Cultivator.*

Balance Doors.—The Boston Cultivator says, Mr. Barnabas C. Knox, of Long Meadow, Mass. has exhibited at our office a model of a balance door, which he has invented and patented. These doors are adapted to barns, stables and other buildings. The doorway is closed by two doors, one at the top and the other at the bottom; balanced by chain or rope, running on trucks, so that they are easily opened, one descending to a very little below the level of the floor, so that wheels will not strike it, and the other ascending.

The mode of hanging doors is adapted to some places and to peculiar purposes. In some buildings doors cannot be run on rollers, and the old method of swinging is neither good nor convenient. The balance doors are very readily and easily opened, and in some cases they are very convenient for opening part of the way, for admitting air and yet excluding animals.—*Farmer and Mechanic.*

A Perpetual Clock.

Some of our exchanges describe an invention of a Mr. Atkins, of Illinois, who has applied a power of the atmosphere by which it has been kept in motion five weeks, and gives every proof that it will continue to run by this same power until it is worn out. This machine says the inventor, has been examined by several of the most learned men of his vicinity, who have expressed their unanimous opinion that it will continue to perform as it has done, as it has done, all the requisites of perpetual motion, (not allowing for the decay of the materials of which it is constructed,) so long as the laws of nature remain unchanged. The power by which this machine is propelled is obtained by the combined agencies of natural heat, or the heat of the sun and the attraction of gravitation. Now by a very simple arrangement of levers and other machinery, these powers which are well known by the learned to be the prime movers of the wonderful machinery of nature, are applied to a time-piece, by which a perfectly uniform and perpetual motion is produced. The inventor of this machine denies the possibility of a machine ever being constructed which shall be self-moving, or one that shall have power to create the power which shall be the cause of its own movement. He does not therefore pretend to be the inventor of a self-moving or a creating machine, as this would be contradictory to his position, but believes he has so brought his machine under the control of natural power as to run perpetually and perform the duties of its task free from any expense or human attention. The power of heat above named being absorbed by a rod of metal, causes the rod to expand, which on cooling contracts, and contraction of said rod of metal, which takes place alternately, as often as it undergoes these changes of temperature; is, as aforesaid, by means of simple machinery, applied to a time-piece, by which means a perfectly uniform and perpetual motion is produced. The inventor of this machine has in contemplation the construction of clocks of the largest size for churches and other public buildings, for which purpose the power above named is peculiarly adapted. He also hopes that ere long he may be able to offer to the public, clocks which he can warrant to run without ever requiring to be wound up by human hand, and at such prices as will be within the means of nearly all classes of people.—*Farmer and Mechanic.*

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Arrival of the Niagara.—From Ireland, we have intelligence that the patriots, O'Brien, Meagher, McManus, and O'Donohue, have had their sentence, commuted to transportation for life. The trial of Duffey had concluded, but the jury had returned no verdict.—The Lord Lieutenant and family had gone to England. The Irish papers give deplorable pictures of the state of the country, through the failure of the potatoe crops. The spirit of emigration was rife, and multitudes were flocking to the sea ports, to escape from the country.

Funeral of Gen. Kearney.—Gen. Kearney was buried to-day. The procession was large and imposing.—*St. Louis Paper.*

The Few Ruling the Many.—In 1775 there were in England 250,000 landed proprietors in capite, who were reduced in 1815 to 30,000 and now they do not exceed 10,000. In Scotland there are only 3000, and in Ireland, 6,444 land owners in capite, so that it may be said the 19,111 sway power over 30,000,000 persons.

Fatal Rail Road Collision.—We learn that a most disastrous collision occurred on the Railroad between Albany and Utica, on Tuesday afternoon last, at about 4 o'clock. The passenger train bound up was met by a freight train going down, both trains proceeding very rapidly. The concussion was so great as to demolish both locomotives. One man was instantly killed, and several others injured slightly. It seems very strange that the arrangement of trains cannot be so perfect as to prevent these collisions, most of which are attended by destruction of life and property.—*Buff. Ex.*

The ship Michigan of Portland, bound to New York from Glasgow, was lost when 21 days out. Capt. Mason, his wife, the first mate, and three seamen were drowned.

The N. Orleans papers of the 29th ult., give the particulars of a deplorable fight, on the evening of the 28th, during the passing of a democratic torch-light procession, in which 28 shots were fired.—One man was killed, and many wounded and a house burned to the ground.

From Yucatan.—An arrival from Sisal at New Orleans on the 28th, brings advices from Yucatan to the 21st ult., Mr. Niles an officer in the U. S. Army came over to organize an American force, to make head against the Indians, who dispute every inch of ground gained over them by the whites.

Thursday, the 23d of November has been designated as the day of thanksgiving for this state by the proclamation of Gov. Ransom.

Rice Garland, Ex-Judge of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, and ex-member of Congress, who disappeared from New Orleans some years ago, while under arrest, is practising law in Freeport, Texas, opposite Matamoros, as we see by a late number of the Flag.

Result of the Election.—As the result of the late Presidential contest, it appears to be pretty well ascertained that Taylor will receive a majority of the electoral votes. The states which are considered certain for Taylor, from the intelligence received are, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana, Florida, Tennessee, Kentucky, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont. In Massachusetts and New Hampshire, there is said to be no election by the people, neither candidate receiving a majority over the two others. The states which are considered certain for Cass, are Ohio, South Carolina, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Iowa, and some others. The Free Soil vote, was heavy in New York, Massachusetts, and several other states.

Canal Contracts.—The work let on the eastern division of the Erie Canal, yesterday, amounted to about one hundred and thirty thousand dollars. The competition was very great, the bids numbering one hundred and ninety-one.—*Albany Eve. Journal.*

Since the second of April 148,477 immigrants have arrived at this port alone from the European continent and Great Britain; nearly one hundred and fifty thousand in less than seven months.—*lb.*

Agents Wanted.—Wanted a number of intelligent and enterprising men, who can come well recommended, to act as travelling agents for the Michigan Farmer. Good terms will be given.

TERMS.—The MICHIGAN FARMER is published at Detroit, twice a month, by WARREN ISHAM, at one dollar a year in advance—after three months \$1 25—after six months \$1 50—after nine months \$1 75. No subscription taken for less than one year, nor discontinued till all arrearages are paid. To clubs, five copies for four dollars. Office, on King's corner, third story.

For Sale,

At the office of the Michigan Farmer, "Allen's Domestic Animals," which has already been advertised in the Farmer, and which has had an unprecedented sale, ten thousand copies having been disposed of since the first of January last.

DETROIT PRICE CURRENT.

Flour, bbl.	\$4 06	Salt,	\$1 37 a	\$1 24
Corn, bus.	a	50 Butter,	14	a 13
Oats,	a	22 Eggs, doz.		124
Rye,	a	42 Hides, lb.	3	a 64
Barley,	56 a	Wheat, bus.		78
Hogs, 100 lbs.	3 00 a	3 50 Hams, lb.	6	a 64
Apples, bush	25 a	50 Onions, bu.	41	a 50
Potatoes,		50 Cranberries,		a 1 25
Hay, ton,	8 00 a	10 00 Buckwheat 100 lbs.		1 50
Wool, lb.	14 a	28 Indian meal,		1 00
Peas, bu,	a	75 Beef, do	3 50 a	4 50
Beans,	75 a	80 Lard, lb. retail,		7
Beef, bbl.	6 00 a	7 00 Honey.		10
Pork,	10 50 a	11 50 Apples, dried,		1 00
White fish,	6 00 a	7 00 Peaches, do		a 2 00
Trout,	5 50 a	6 50 Clover seed, bu.		4 50
Cod fish, lb.	5 a	53 Herd's grass do do		1 00
Cheese,	6 a	8 Flax do		75
Wood, cord,	2 25 a	2 50 Lime, " bbl		75

CHEMICAL LECTURES.

The Editor of the Michigan Farmer will lecture on Chemistry as applied to agriculture, at the times and places specified below; the lecture to commence in each instance at 6½ o'clock in the evening, viz:

At Niles, Thursday, Nov. 16.	At Marshall, Thursday, Nov. 23.
At Paw Paw, Monday, Nov. 20.	At Ann Arbor, Monday, Nov. 27.
At Kalamazoo, Tuesday, Nov. 21.	At Ypsilanti, Tuesday, Nov. 28.
At Battle Creek, Wednesday, 22.	

To our Subscribers.—Those of our subscribers, who are in arrears from the commencement of the present volume of the Farmer, and from whom there is now due one dollar and seventy-five cents, shall be credited for two years, (for the present volume and the next) if they will send us two dollars within a reasonable time. They may remit through the postmasters, or through the mail, for a time, at our risk and expense.

PROSPECTUS
Of the Michigan Farmer.
VOLUME VII.

Proposed Enlargement.

The seventh volume of the Michigan Farmer will commence on the first of January next. We propose, by the addition of another column to each page, to issue it semi-monthly, in a quarto form, embellished with cuts, and on superior paper, which will give it a place among the largest and cheapest agricultural Journals in the land, the price remaining the same as at present.

But these improvements cannot be made, unless our subscription list is at least doubled, and it is on condition that such an accession is made to it, that they are proposed. It is with the friends of the paper to say whether it shall be done.

We must fill pages with testimonials of the estimation in which the Farmer is held by our brethren of the press, both at the East and the West, and what would be better still, we could present our best agricultural exchanges from the East, (except one or two which circulate pretty freely in Michigan,) occupied, to a great extent, with important articles copied from our columns, no agricultural paper in the Union being more copied from than the Michigan Farmer. But this is unnecessary. Our readers know what the Farmer is, and we are content, that they should judge for themselves.

There will be more than two hundred practical farmers on the list of our correspondents for the next volume, all distinguished for success in their vocation, besides numerous occasional contributors. Thus will the farmers of Michigan be able to throw their individual knowledge and skill in husbandry into a common stock, for the common benefit of all: and thus will they be furnished with a paper adapted to their necessities, to the peculiarities of their soil and climate, and to the circumstances of a new country: and one which shall become the pride of our young and rising Commonwealth.

PREMIUMS.—The following premiums will be allowed for new subscribers, to be paid proportionably from each subscription, when collected, viz:

For 100 Subscribers, \$25 00	For 25 Subscribers, \$6 25
For 75 do 18 75	For 10 do 2 50
For 50 do 12 50	For 5 do 1 00

Clubs can avail themselves of the above terms, which amount to the same thing as giving it to them monthly for the trifling sum of three shillings a year.

It is desired that subscriptions should be paid, in all cases, at the time of subscribing, if possible: but if the person procuring the names, is willing to become responsible for payment it may be delayed a short time at his discretion.

The attention of Postmasters, particularly, is invited to the claims of their own State Agricultural paper.

We want returns by the first or at the latest by the fifteenth of December, that we may make calculations accordingly. Every thing will depend upon the efforts of the friends of the paper in procuring subscribers.

Terms the same as at present.

WARREN ISHAM.

DETROIT, October 1st, 1848.

CHOICE FRUIT TREES.

ROSEBANK NURSERY, NEAR AMHERSTBURGH, C. W.

THE subscriber has for sale a most extensive assortment of Fruit Trees, comprising all the desirable and leading varieties, namely—upwards of

180 varieties of Apples, at 25 cents each, or \$20 per 100.
120 do Pears, only a part of which, consisting of the most esteemed sorts on Quince and Pear Stocks, will be for sale this fall at 50 cents each.
70 do Peaches, at 25 cents each, or \$20 per 100.
70 do Plums, at 50 cents each, or \$40 per 100.
50 do Cherries, at 50 cents each, or \$40 per 100.
8 do Nectarines, at 38 cents each.
6 do Apricots, on Apricot and Plum Stocks, 50c each.
5 do Quinces, at 25 cents each.
20 do Foreign Grapes, at 50 cts each, or \$37½ per 100.
3 do Native do 38 do do \$25 do

Isabella and Catawba Grapes, one year from cutting, will be supplied at \$15 per 100.

Apples, except of the rarer sorts, two years from root graft, large size, at \$15 per 100.

Also, the best varieties of Gooseberries, Currants, Raspberries, Strawberries, Almonds, Chestnuts, Filberts, &c. at as low rates as they can be procured any where else.

The subscriber would call particular attention to the fact that specimen trees of every variety cultivated have been planted out in his Orchards, which are mostly in a bearing state, and from which the scions are cut; thus offering a guarantee as to the correctness of the kinds, which few nurseries on this continent possess.

Persons unacquainted with Fruits, would be better supplied by leaving the selection of kinds to the subscriber, merely mentioning the number of summer, autumn, and winter varieties, &c., or the kinds they may already have.

Catalogues will be furnished to all postpaid applicants, and the Trees will be delivered in Detroit when required, free of charge and duties. Orders may be forwarded by mail, or left at the store of J. & J. Dougall, Windsor, or Mr. W. L'lay's Variety Store, Detroit.

Also, a fine collection of Tulips, Hyacinths, Dahlias, Roses, and other flowering plants and shrubs.

JAMES DOUGALL.

Rosebank Nursery, Oct. 15, 1848.

FRUIT & ORNAMENTAL TREES, SHRUBS, VINES, PLANTS, ROSES, &c., &c., &c.

The subscriber offers for sale a large assortment of fruit trees, comprising most of the leading varieties of apples, pears, plums, cherries, peaches, nectarines, apricots, grapes, &c. together with a large and general assortment of ornamental trees, shrubs and plants, including a splendid collection of the finest new roses and dahlias, which embrace the most beautiful in cultivation.

The green house contains a complete stock of the finest camellias, cacti, geraniums, fuschias, verbenas, lilies and most of the popular and beautiful plants that are usually cultivated; all at very low prices.

As the whole stock (which has been accumulating for the last 8 years) must be removed by the first of May, an opportunity is offered of obtaining trees and plants of large size, at very moderate prices.

WM. ADAIR, Mich. Garden, DETROIT.

Detroit Nursery and Garden.

The subscriber would call the attention of those who wish to purchase fruit trees this fall, to his nursery, where they can be supplied with fine, thrifty trees, of the best varieties of apple, pear, peach, cherry, plum, nectarine and apricot, also many kinds of ornamental trees and shrubbery.

Orders may be left at the nursery on the south side of Chicago Road, one mile from the City Hall, or at the store of John Palmer & Co. No. 108 Jefferson Avenue, Detroit.

September 20th, 1848.

J. C. HOLMES.

Dying and Scouring.

The subscriber, having opened a dying establishment, North side of Jefferson Avenue, (corner of Jefferson Avenue and Shelby Street,) nearly opposite the Michigan Exchange, is prepared to execute orders of every description in his line of business, and in a style which has never been surpassed in the Western country. Shawls, Scarfs, Merinoes, China crapes, and every species of foreign fabric, dyed and finished in the best style. Moreens and Damask curtains, dyed and watered. Gentlemen's wearing apparel scoured, and the colors renovated or dyed, without taking the garment apart.

DETROIT, Oct. 7, 1848.

M. CHAPPELL.